

1724

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PATENT

Attorney Docket No. F8-5460

10-18-a

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:)
 DE GHELDERE et al.)
 Serial No: 09/325,599)
 Filed: June 3, 1999)
 Examiner:)
 Art Unit: 1724)
 For: PROCESSING SET AND METHODS)
 FOR PROCESSING AND TREATING)
 A BIOLOGICAL FLUID)

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THIRD SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97, as revised on February 4, 1992, 1135 OG 23-24, Applicants hereby call the Examiner's attention to documents listed on the attached form, which documents may be material to the examination of this application.

No inference should be drawn that any apparatus disclosed is equivalent to the subject invention. Also, the citation of the above-discussed documents is not to be construed as an assertion that more pertinent art could not possibly be in existence. Citation of any document herein is not to be construed as an admission that any subject matter disclosed in the document is

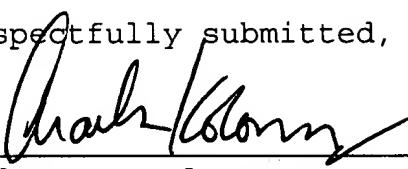
necessarily within the inventive field of endeavor, that any disclosure is necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant to the instant patent application, and/or that any disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art with respect to the instant invention.

Applicants also respectfully reserve the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosure of any document or other art, including the disclosure of those documents discussed herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the present patent application.

This Third Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after three months from the filing date but (presumably) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. This Third Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is also being submitted within three (3) months of a Communication from a foreign (international) Patent Office in a counterpart foreign (international) patent application. Accordingly, it is believed that no fee under 37 CFR 1.97(c) is required. If it is determined that a fee is required for this

Third Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, please charge
our Deposit Account No. 50/1039.

Respectfully submitted,


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